Letters to the editor
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7627 Old Receiver Road
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The Post's ombudsman column (12/6/92) sorely needs an ombudsman.

In an entire column related to "public killings in the occupied Gaza Strip" and "'Clashes' and street battles and their numerical death tolls," Joann Byrd never once uses the words "Arabs" or "Palestinians", never once says she is writing about Arab/Palestinian fratricide, never once says that the pictures about which she writes show an Arab shooting another Arab in the head in broad daylight, and never once cites the available "numerical death tolls" of this Arab fratricide or the ostensible explanation for it.

She gives the false impression that, Gaza being occupied by Israel, ~~that~~ it is responsible for the "public killings" and if not responsible for, at least involved in those "street battles."

With this column by an experienced reporter who in addition has the responsibility for critically reporting on the Post's reporting, that she intended prejudice and intitation of prejudice cannot be ignored.

When the use of only four letters, if only once in an entire newspaper column, could have at least reduced ~~the~~ its prejudicial nature ~~of the column~~, what kind of editing was there when, for example, instead of "public killings" ~~she~~ it could have said "Arab public killings" or instead of "'Clashes' and street battles" ~~she~~ it could have said "'Clashes' and street battles between Arabs"?

Neither would have required an added line of type. And there was more than enough blank space anyway.

It is incredible that in the writing, the copyreading and the editing the gross, the crude prejudice and unfairness if not the dishonesty of this writing was not perceived and corrected.

This reflects on the Post and raises questions about its own fairness and whether or not it is prejudiced.

An entire column on pictures without once describing ~~those pictures~~ them?